AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-22.   (canceled)

23.   A method of operating a processing unit for a local videoconference system, the processing unit controlling a plurality of speakers, the method comprising:

receiving at the processing unit from a remote videoconferencing system a position signal and an audio signal from an audio source, wherein the position signal is indicative of a position of the audio source relative to the remote videoconferencing system; and

selectively driving at least one of the plurality of speakers in accordance with the position signal to broadcast the audio signal, wherein the driven speakers are indicative of the position of the audio source relative to the remote videoconferencing system.

24.   The method of claim 23, wherein audio source comprises a videoconference participant.

25.   The method of claim 23, wherein the position signal indicates an angle between the audio source and the remote videoconferencing system.

26.   The method of claim 23, wherein only one speaker is driven.

27.   The method of claim 23, wherein the speakers are positioned in a linear array.

28.   The method of claim 23, wherein position signal is derived at the remote videoconferencing system from microphone signals generated by a plurality of microphones.

29.   The method of claim 28, wherein the microphones and speakers are both positioned in a linear array.

30.   A method of operating a processing unit for a local videoconference system, the processing unit receiving input from a plurality of microphones, the method comprising:

receiving an audio signal from an audio source at the plurality of

microphones, each microphone generating a microphone signal;

generating a position signal from the microphone signals indicative of a

position of the audio source relative to the local videoconferencing

system;

transmitting the audio signal and the position signal to a remote

videoconferencing unit.

31.   The method of claim 30, wherein audio source comprises a videoconference participant.

32.   The method of claim 30, wherein the position signal indicates an angle between the audio source and the remote videoconferencing system.

33.   The method of claim 30, wherein generating a position signal comprises assessing the magnitude of the microphone signals.

34.   The method of claim 30, wherein the microphones are positioned in a linear array.

35.   The method of claim 30, wherein the position signal is used at the remote videoconferencing system to selectively drive at least one of the plurality of speakers in accordance with the position signal to broadcast the audio signal, wherein the driven speakers are indicative of the position of the audio source relative to the remote videoconferencing system.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the microphones and speakers are both positioned in a linear array.

37. A method of operating a processing unit for a local videoconference system, the processing unit being coupled to a display, the method comprising:

    receiving at the processing unit at least first and second video streams from a remote videoconferencing system, wherein the first and second video streams comprise different areas derived from images of an area recorded at a video camera at the remote videoconferencing system;

    displaying on the display at least the first and second video streams.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the first video stream comprises the entirety of the area.

39. The method of claim 37, wherein both the first and second video streams comprise subsets of the area.

40. The method of claim 37, wherein the second video stream comprises a subset of the area.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein the subset of the area comprises an area around an acoustic source at the remote videoconferencing system.

42. The method of claim 41, further comprising determining the position of the acoustic source relative to the remote videoconferencing system.

43. The method of claim 42, wherein the position is determined by through the interaction between an audio signal from the acoustic source and a plurality of microphones at the remote videoconferencing unit.

44.   The method of claim 43, further comprising receiving at the processing unit the audio signal and the position.

45.   The method of claim 37, wherein the video camera is fixed.

46.   The method of claim 37, wherein the second video stream is displayed on the display within the first video stream.

47.   A method of operating a processing unit for a local videoconference system, the processing unit being coupled to a video camera, the method comprising:

        receiving at the video camera images of an area, and sending the images to the processing unit;

        at the processing unit, generating at least first and second video streams from the images, wherein at least the second video stream comprises a subset of the area; and

        transmitting the first and second video streams to a remote videoconferencing system.

48.   The method of claim 47, wherein the first video stream comprises the entirety of the area.

49.   The method of claim 47, wherein both the first and second video streams comprise subsets of the area.

50.   The method of claim 47, wherein the subset of the area comprises an area around an acoustic source at the local videoconferencing system.

51.   The method of claim 50, further comprising determining the position of the acoustic source relative to the local videoconferencing system.

52.   The method of claim 51, wherein the position is determined by through the interaction between an audio signal from the acoustic source and a plurality of microphones coupled to the processing unit.

53.   The method of claim 52, further comprising transmitting the audio signal and the position are transmitted to the remote videoconferencing system.

54.   The method of claim 47, wherein the video camera is fixed.